Scheme for SC/ST Farmers

1339. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing any special schemes for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the status of those schemes in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (c) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation (DAC) is not implementing any special schemes for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe farmers in the country. The DAC is primarily responsible for increasing production and productivity of agricultural output through implementation of various agriculture development schemes. The schemes are production oriented and area specific in nature which therefore benefit farmers of all categories including farmers of SC/ST communities. In view of the above, there is little scope for formulating schemes/programmes particularly focused on specific communities. However, wherever possible, the State Governments/ Implementing Agencies are advised in the Administrative Approvals of Schemes/Programmes to provide allocation/funds for Special Component Plan (SCP) for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub Plan (TSP) for Scheduled Tribes as per the Government Guidelines on the subject.

Assistance to Women Cooperatives in Gujarat

1340. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether grants are being released to Gujarat for assistance to women cooperatives in the State;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years, year-wise;

(c) the number of cooperatives benefited during the said period in the State, district-wise; and

(d) the details as to how many of them were milk cooperatives and how many were other cooperatives?